21ST ANNUAL

THE WESTERN FOOD SAFETY CONFERENCE

presented by **HARTNELL COLLEGE**

CALL FOR SPEAKERS

2026 WESTERN FOOD SAFETY CONFERENCE

MAY 6–7, 2026 | SALINAS, CALIFORNIA

We are now accepting speaker proposals for the **2026 Western Food Safety Conference,** taking place May 6–7 in beautiful Salinas, California. This respected regional conference is known for its strong focus on the **grower, shipper, and processor community,** and its commitment to advancing food safety through **science-based practices, real-world innovation, and collaboration across the supply chain.**

If you have **groundbreaking insights, research findings, practical case studies, or innovative applications** related to food safety, we invite you to submit a proposal. This is your opportunity to set yourself apart as a thought leader while supporting the continued advancement of food safety across the fresh produce industry.

WHO SHOULD APPLY:

We welcome proposals from food safety professionals representing:
Grower-shippers and fresh-cut processors

- Food manufacturers and suppliers
- Academia and researchers
- Industry associations
- Regulatory agencies
- Technology and solution providers (see vendor note below)

VENDOR PARTICIPATION POLICY:

The Western Food Safety Conference prioritizes educational content. While we do not accept sales-driven presentations, solution providers may participate in panel discussions if the session includes a diverse group of voices— particularly from growers, processors, and regulatory or academic partners—and the content is non-promotional in nature.

TOPICS OF INTEREST INCLUDE:

- Emerging pathogens and risk mitigation strategies
- Data-driven decision making and (FSMA 204, EPCIS, digital tools)
- Innovation in wash water, sanitation, and field-level controls
- Audit readiness & regulatory updates
- Training, workforce development, and safety culture
- Practical applications of new technologies
- Lessons learned from outbreaks, recalls, or investigations
- Water quality, environmental monitoring, and pre-harvest controls

We look forward to reviewing your proposals and curating another high-impact, grower-focused program in 2026.

SUBMIT YOUR PRESENTATION PROPOSAL

2026 Western Food Safety Conference
📅 May 6–7, 2026 | 📍 Salinas, California
📅 **Submission Deadline: October 1, 2025**
⏱️ **Session Length: 45 minutes (including Q&A)**

Please complete the form below to submit your proposal for consideration. All submissions will be reviewed by the Western Food Safety Conference Planning Committee.

1. SESSION TITLE (Limit to 12 words or fewer)

_____
_____

2. SESSION ABSTRACT (150–250 words. Describe the topic, goals, and what attendees will learn.)

_____
_____
_____

3. KEY LEARNING OBJECTIVES

(List 2–4 actionable takeaways for attendees.)

_____
_____
_____
_____

4. PROPOSED FORMAT

(Each session is 45 minutes including Q&A. Please select one.)

- ◯ Solo presentation
- ◯ Co-presentation (2 speakers)
- ◯ Panel discussion (3+ speakers)
- ◯ Moderated session

5. SPEAKER INFORMATION

Primary Speaker Name: _____
Title & Organization: _____
Email Address: _____ Phone Number: _____
Short Bio (75–100 words): _____

LinkedIn Profile (optional): _____

6. ADDITIONAL SPEAKERS (IF APPLICABLE)

(Please include names, titles, organizations, & emails for all co-presenters or panelists.)

_____
_____
_____
_____

7. HAVE YOU PRESENTED AT THE WESTERN FOOD SAFETY CONFERENCE BEFORE?

◯ YES   ◯ NO

8. ANY SCHEDULING RESTRICTIONS OR SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS?

_____
_____

9. OPTIONAL SUPPORTING MATERIALS   (Attach links or files: slides, articles, case studies, etc.)

_____
_____

Deadline to Submit: October 1, 2025